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JOURNAL OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PRESIDENT AND MASTERS OF WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE.

(*Continued from page* 22.)

April 15th, 1769.

At a Meeting of the President & Masters of Wm & Mary College.

Present:

The Revd Mr. Horrocks, President, Mr. Camm, E. Jones, and Mr. Johnson.

On the 12th Instant, & on Occasion of some riotous Behaviour in the Hall after Dinner on the Day preceding this Date, and of a violent Attempt immediately [178] after to break down with Brick Bats the new Work bestow'd on the boarded Windows of the College, Thos Byrd was call'd before a Meeting of the President and Masters. In the Course of his Examination he confess'd his being a principal Actor with Respect to the Disorder committed in the Hall. He apologis'd for his general Neglect of the Schools and his Studies by declaring that he had no Genius to be a Scholar, and was incapable of receiving any Improvement in the College; and when he was put in mind that his Father must send him thither for Improvement, & how disagreeable it must be for a Parent to hear of a Son's disorderly Behaviour, he averr'd that his Father did not expect him to receive any Improvement at the College, & that his Father would believe *him* concerning any Complaints of his Conduct, and offer'd to prove his Innocence of Part of the Charge against him by swearing before any Magistrate. On being told that the President and Masters had Evidences against him in Relation to what he denied, he wish'd to know who they were, declar'd that let them be who they would (the President and Masters excepted) he would call them to Account, & on being asked what he meant by calling them to account, he explain'd it by saying that [179] he would knock them down. Partly by his own Confession, partly by Circumstances, partly by the Sturdiness of his Behaviour, and partly by Evidence, the President & Masters were convinced of his being a Ringleader in such Disorders as are

above mention'd. Whereupon they resolv'd to make him an offer of the following Alternatives, either to suffer a Whipping in the Grammar School of which he was a Member, or to be expell'd the College. On the Delivery of the said Sentence to him by the President, & before the Masters in Meeting he behav'd with great Rudeness, said that he would never submit to be whipped, that if that was the Case, he must walk then, that he was unjustly order'd to be punish'd, that he was a capable Judge, & would be the Judge himself when he deserved to be punish'd; told the President that if the Expulsion took Place, he, the President would be sorry for it; and when he was ask'd the Meaning of such Threats, and whether he design'd to challenge the President answer'd that if he was expell'd he should consider the President as any other Person.

On Recollection and due Consideration of the above Particulars & of what has follow'd thereupon, it is thought necessary to have this Entry made in our [180] Journal of Proceedings. And whereas in the Examination of several Students and Scholars it appear'd that the Youth of this College, some from a false Notion of Honour, & others from Fear of being beaten & abused by the Delinquents among them, have made a general Determination rather to maintain a Falsehood than to utter any Evidence concerning Facts by which their Companion or Companions may be affected; it is therefore resolved, that the Names of the Persons who afforded any Evidence concerning what pass'd in the College on the eleventh of this Month be kept an inviolable Secret, in Order to secure the said persons from violence & affronts, & agreeable to the promise made them to draw from them their testimony.

On a respectful consideration of the Proposal of the Honble William Nelson in behalf of Thomas Byrd, & a debate thereupon in Meeting, it is the opinion of this Society that if Thos Byrd should be readmitted, it would be attended with no benefit to himself but a great Injury to the rest of the young Gentlemen. And we presume the Honble Person above mention'd does not desire us to readmit the said Mr. Byrd while this is our opinion.

JAMES HORROCKS, Pr.

June 19th, 1769.

At a Meeting of the President and Masters of Wm & Mary College.

Present,

The Revd: Mr. Horrocks, President, Mr. Camm, E. Jones, & Mr. Johnson.

Resol: that John Byrd be removed to the Moral & Mathematical Schools.

Resol: that Eight Hhds. of Tobo: be consign'd to Mr. Samuel Athawes.

Resol: that Eight Hhds. of Tobo: be consign'd to Mr. John Norton.

August 28th, 1769.

At a meeting of the President & Masters of Wm & Mary College,

Present,

The Revd: Mr. Horrocks, President, Mr. Camm, E. Jones, & Mr. Johnson.

This day the College Invoice was examined and pass'd.

Resol: that a boy be appointed to go into the Town on errands from the young gentlemen between the hours of eight & twelve o'clock in the morning, and at no other time.

(182) Sepr 2d, 1769.

At a meeting of the President and Masters of Wm & Mary College,

Present,

The Revd: Mr. Horrocks, President, Mr. Camm, E. Jones, & Mr. Johnson.

Mr President mention'd some things proposed in a visitation yesterday, but a copy had not been obtained from the Clerk; it was thought proper that this meeting should be adjourned till Monday next 12 o'clock.

Monday, 4th. Sepr, 1769.

Present as before.

Resol: unanimously that the College vote for James City County be given Robt: C. Nicholas & Lewis Burwell, Esq., after which the Meeting further adjourned till Wednesday next 9 o'clock.

Wednesday, 6th Sep^{r}, 1769.

Present as before.

The Society being inform'd of many base and dishonest actions committed in the College by Robert Robinson, particularly his stealing 2 p^{r} of shoes, 1 p^{r} of stockings, & a penknife from Mr. John Page, & sundry other articles found in his Possession of [183] which he could give no satisfactory Acco^{t} (when called before them), after maturely inquiring into the several Allegations against him (part of which he confess'd, & part appear'd by undeniable Evidence) have unanimously resolv'd to expel the said Robert Robinson as a dangerous person and unworthy of being a Member of this Society, & we strictly charge and forbid all the young gentlemen belonging to College not to entertain or associate with the said Robinson within the limits of the College under Pain of a severe Punishment. And we further order the said Robinson immediately to quit the said College. Resol: that this meeting be further adjourned to Monday next at half Hour after 5 o'clock in the afternoon:

Monday 11th Sep^{r}, 1769.

Present as before,

Ordered, that the Revd Mr Camm & E. Jones be appointed to wait on the Rector with a copy of the Minutes obtain'd from the Clerk of the Visitation, & to desire him to inform the Society whether what are mention'd in the said Minutes under the Name of Resolves have once pass'd the Visitation, after which the Society adjourn'd till Wednesday next 12 o'clock.

Wednesday, 13th Sep^{r}, 1769.

Present as before,

Order'd that the Report of Mr Camm & Mr Jones in Consequence of the above Order to be kept by the clerk of the Meeting.

(184) Octr 30th, 1769.

At a Meeting of the President & Masters of W^{m} & Mary College,

Present,

The Revd Mr Horrocks, President, Mr Camm, E. Jones & Mr Johnson.

Upon a Motion made by Mr President to consider whether

Mr Emmerson, the usher of the College ought to be continu'd in his office or not, after some debate on the same, the Society were of opinion, that the Service of the College requir'd his Continuance, & therefore he is accordingly continued.

November 16th, 1769.

At a Meeting of the President & Masters of Wm & Mary College.

Present,

The Revd Mr Horrocks, President, Mr Camm, E. Jones & Mr Johnson.

John Byrd, after calling for a Servant which was at that time employ'd by the House keeper in the Hall, came into the said Hall with a Horsewhip in his hand and taking hold of his Servant, with his whip lifted up threaten'd to whip him if he did not immediately go with him, [185] the Housekeeper answer'd "that he should not"; upon which the said Byrd replied, "that if she were in the Boy's Place, he would horsewhip her also"; to which she said, "It was more than he dared to do," she supposing that he threaten'd to horsewhip her.

Upon the above complaint, the President sent for the said Byrd; when he appear'd, he behaved with great rudeness to the President, and made use of many oaths and indecent expressions which evidently show'd a gross contempt of the President, upon which the Society made the following resolution:

Resolved unanimously, that John Byrd, out of regard to his general better deportment be forgiven the above very ill behavior on condition that he ask pardon of the President for the personal affront to him, and of the Society, for disobedience of their order and ill treatment of their Servant; and profess to conduct himself with proper respect to the President & Masters for the future, & that if hereafter he should in practice contradict such professions, he be then immediately expell'd the College as totally unfit to be any longer a Member of that Society.

(*To be Continued.*)